Cesar Chavez Study Guide

César Chávez was born near Yuma, Arizona

Many people from other countries come to the United States in order to find a better life.

Cesar’s parents came to the United States from Mexico.

Cesar’s father owned a farm and ran a grocery store.

Cesar’s parents taught him about respect, hard work, and diligence.

During the Great Depression Cesar’s family lost everything and were forced to move.

Chavez later dropped out of school because he had to help make a living for the family.

Cesar’s family moved to California and became migrant workers.

Cesar was unhappy about the unfair treatment of migrant workers.

At the age of 17, César served in the Navy during World War II

Cesar learned that Mexican Americans were treated unfairly in the armed forces too.

After the war Chavez went to work in the cotton fields where he continued to observe unfair treatment of migrant workers and Mexican Americans.

Name two contributions Chavez made as the leader of the Community Service Organization and later as the leader of the Farm Worker’s Association.

1. He helped Mexican Americans earn their citizenship.

2. He helped to establish unions so workers received equal pay and equal rights.

The landowners didn’t want the workers to form unions because they would have to pay more money.

Chávez encouraged the workers to strike and form picket lines.

A small group of union workers went on strike to force business to make changes. The Delano Grape Strike lasted 5 years.

During the strike Chavez convinced people (in the community) to boycott the sale of grapes. Many people refused to buy California.

In 1988 Chávez went on a fast to protest the use of pesticides in the fields.

After his death, President Bill Clinton awarded Chavez Presidential Medal of Freedom.